



Summer Report and Welcome to the Fall Season

Welcome to the start of our 70th season of hunting in Chester County. We are looking forward to good sport. Bring friends to see the pack as the season gets under way! As well as our Sunday meets, you are welcome to join us for the weekly training hunts Wednesday and Saturday mornings. Contact Jim Scharnberg for locations and times.

Our 2017-2018 season began well in June. Walking out and hunting three days a week has gotten the pack in fine shape. White Acres Farm, CFS, George Jefferis's, Bob Berry's, Harold Hallman's and Marsh Creek all have had game. Our thanks to them all for letting us use their land for training hunts this summer. Our hard-working summer crew—Gene Bolt, David Harshaw, Kate, Helen and Ned Farnham, Phyllis Allen, Gillian and Jonathan Wiedorn, and Andrea, Mimi and David Herr—made this summer's training and exercise really work.

During the month of June we walked and trained at kennels as the heat was high in the 90s for days on end. July started the same, with early morning walks by the staff as I recovered from surgery. They really do a super job. We had a very good hunt Sunday morning July 30. Iroise is super. She works tighter to the line than Irmine, and the other hounds fly to her when she opens at a find. Artful did very well his first time hunting. He went to each hound that spoke as they found rabbits, and I was delighted to watch him trying to see what each hound was doing. He worked closely the whole time. I think he will be very good indeed. The farm is full of game, and we had over 7 different rabbits, which made it difficult to keep after one hunted rabbit during each run!

The weekend of August 5 and 6 staff exercised the pack while I was away in Vermont. On August 12 and 13, with the bitches coming



Hound walk July 19th.



End of a hunt at kennels August 27th.

in heat right and left, we got all out for long walks at the farm. Saturday the 19th was hot and dripping humid. We were almost prostrated walking hounds. We had a good hunt on the 20th at Marsh Creek. I took Salsa, Souza, Uwchlan, Artful, Trompette and Tuppence. Whips were Kate and Ned, the Herrs and Phyllis. It started with a bang, as Salsa and Souza got a rabbit running the minute we entered the oval. They ran it down to the first turn and halfway back to ground. They worked the far side to the turn, where they got a small one up for a burst which Souza quickly accounted for. They pushed a couple more out and back to ground as we worked down toward the road, then we drew the center hedgerow line, which was thick with new growth from all the rain. They opened inside at several points, but could not push rabbits out. Andrea viewed one out on the north side that dodged back in. Hounds pushed in at several spots, but couldn't get to it. We crossed to the far hedge line, but it proved to be blank after Salsa and others worked the inside to the far end. Heat and humidity becoming heavy, we called it a morning and hiked back to the trailer. Hounds worked in and out as we went, and it was great to see young Artful trying everywhere all the time. On the 27th we hunted a three couple at kennels. It was a cool morning for a change but no rabbits for the first time. Deer and fox were viewed out of the creek hedgerow bottom making for avoiding that side, otherwise all hounds worked every inch of hedgerow cover to no avail. Burr cleanup was heavy.

Saturday September 2nd we walked and groomed hounds for the **Ludwig's Corner Horse Show**. We then went to the grounds to set up our big tent for the conservation groups and hounds. We finished grooming hounds on Sunday, catching three hounds' coats on the blow just in time. We have given the tent for over 20 years to help get out the news about protecting open space, watersheds and farmland here in Chester County, and will continue to do so in the face of heavy development pressure. Let's all work to make sure that the last crop



The Ludwig's Corner Horse Show Hound Parade September 4th.

in the county is not an asphalt strip mall parking lot. What a great day we had at the show on Monday the 4th! We had a crowd in the tent all day. There was also a big group from each of the hunts with us—Kimberton, Warwick Village and Ardrossan—and many visitors. Their children swarmed our fuzzies. The hound parade was a hit. We distributed the latest county info on agricultural easements, land grants, parks and trails and farmer's markets, and info for the US Sportsmen's Alliance. Ryers's Farm for Aged Equines had successful days at our 40'x40' Open Space Conservation Tent, along with the Green Valleys Watershed Association and the Horse-Shoe Trail Conservancy. All in all it was a very successful show with over 400 horses in the classes. September 9th we walked at kennels and the 10th was a training hunt. Scent was poor in the heat—one rabbit at the start, then blank. On Saturday the 16th, we had a training hunt at Bob Berry's which was a good test for the pack. Deer popped up out of the hedgerows in great profusion, seven in all, but no hounds broke. Hounds worked all solidly, but no rabbits. Wed picked up after half an hour and went to Hallman's where the same thing happened. More



Anne Choi's family with Button.



Jill, Benjamin and John Valois with Larry and their Uproar.

deer. Souza accounted for a rabbit inside, but they could get nothing out for a run. Sunday the 17th we hunted Jefferis's, and except for a run at the start, scent was almost non-existent in the heat. There were plenty of burrs however, almost as many on us as on hounds! Wednesday at kennels Gene and I began the task of resurfacing the runs; run 4 now looks great. We also treated the pack with their monthly ivermectin and Advantix II. Friday the pack was groomed out to prepare for the season. Saturday September 23 Ann Choi and her family

came to get Button for her new home in New Jersey. Sunday the 24th we had a fine training hunt at CFS with Salsa, Yarrow, Yvette, Uchlan, Irmine and Iroise. Due to the continual rains this summer, the covers were very thick. Hounds worked the center stream hedgerow to start, crossing from one side of the stream to the other, began speaking and ran their first rabbit to ground near the bridge end. They then plowed back to the lane literally burrowing through the cover, where we crossed to the hedgerow bordering the walking trail. They soon got a rabbit going inside there, and drove it in cry with checks almost to the far road, when it doubled back and they ran it to ground half way back. They pushed up another one that they worked almost to the road among several holes. Irmine literally had to be dragged out of cover at the end. Their work was excellent, all contributing to the finds and runs inside the very thick cover. Yarrow and Yvette have now become two of our best workers. Clean up back at kennels was pretty easy for a change. Gene's lemonade and delicious lemon squares were a treat to end the morning. Saturday September 30 Gene and I did further work on the runs, and the Valois family came from Maryland to get Larry for honorable retirement after his distinguished 11 years hunting career with Skycastle. He is a great character and we will all miss him.

It has been an interesting summer, with wild heat swings and a mini drought. We pray that the hunting season's weather will be kinder! This season should be a good one. November will be a "no cap fee" month, so bring out lots of guests to share the fun.

We owe our sport to our wonderful landowners.

CONDUCT IN THE FIELD

We are all deeply indebted to farmers and landowners for permission to hunt on their properties, and for their cooperation in protecting game for our sport. We must be constantly alert to prevent damage to property and injury to livestock at all costs.

The following are a few common sense rules of behavior for people who hunt with our pack.

1. FENCES. Climb rail fences at the post where strongest, not in the middle. Slide under wire fences when possible. Don't stretch the wires. If a fence is broken, secure it if possible and immediately report it to staff.

2. GATES. If a gate is opened, make sure that the last person through closes it securely. If barways or rails are let down, make sure that they are put back up.

3. GROUNDS. Keep off lawns and gardens near houses, and winter wheat or other soft seeded ground, including golf greens, tees and traps.

4. LIVESTOCK. Keep well away from all livestock in fields and paddocks so as not to excite them. Move quietly around the enclosed area, rather than cross it, unless following the Field Master.

5. SMOKING AND ALCOHOL. No smoking or drinking permitted in the hunting field. One of our meets is at a school that asks that there be no alcohol on the property.

6. PARKING AT THE MEET. Don't park on driveway edges or where inconvenience will be caused to others. Be guided by the Field Master on arrival.

7. HOUNDS. Silence is golden when Hounds are drawing, or at a fault, or working a patchy line. And don't call to or urge on, a lagging Hound. Hold up and notify the staff quietly.

8. Finally, be guided by the Field Master. Keep behind him unless Hounds are running. Keep at least 30 yards behind Hounds when running, and hold up for the Field Master as soon as they hesitate on the line. If no Field Master is present or appointed for the day, keep thirty yards between yourself and the Huntsman and Hounds when hunting so as not to turn rabbits back into cover, and a good twenty yards when moving off or going home.



SKYCASTLE FRENCH HOUNDS 2017-2018 SEASON

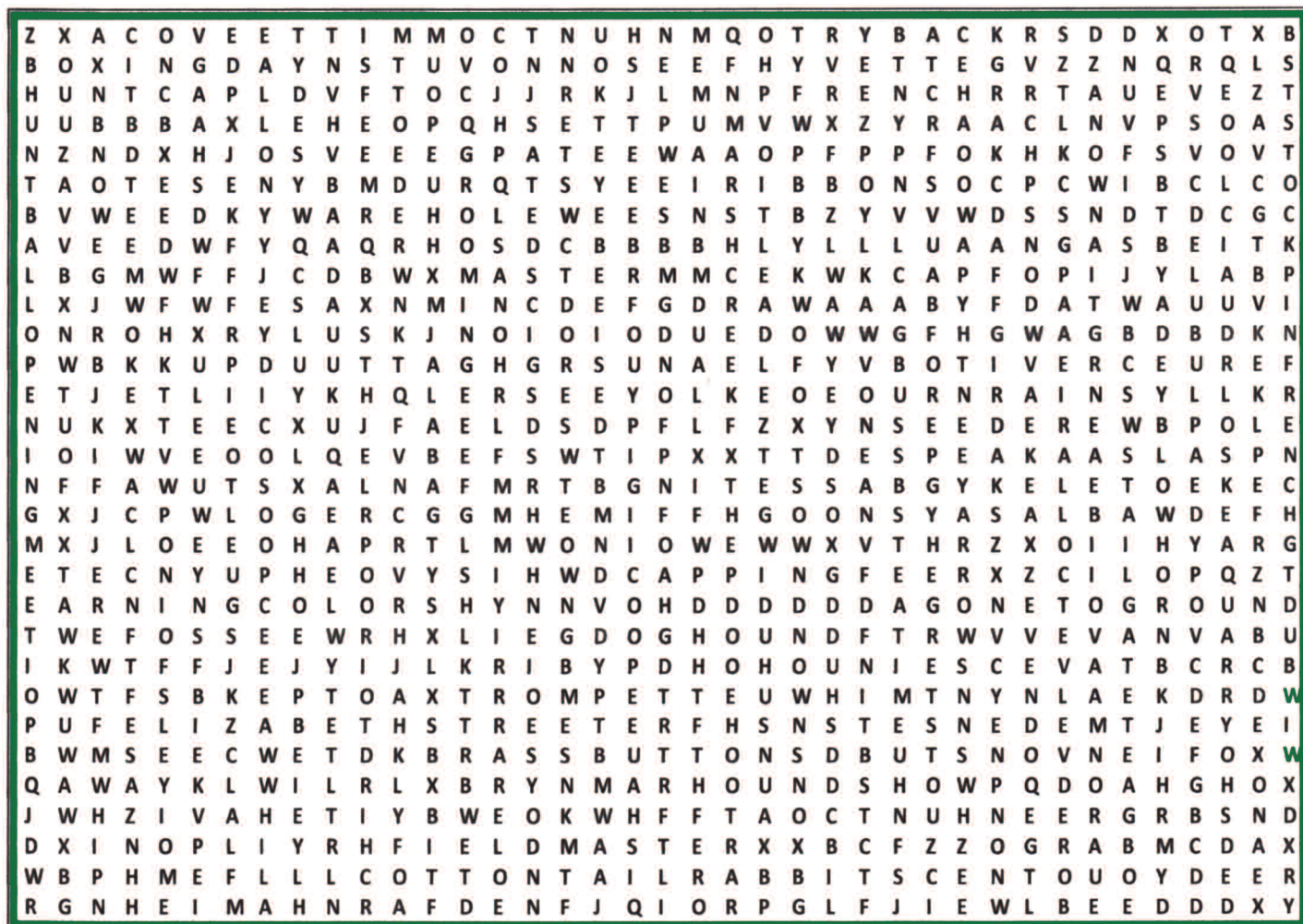
AGE	ENTRY	SIRE	DAM
10	Salsa '08 Sousa '08	} Gebeba's Larry '06	Mischief '01
9	Teasel '09 Trompette '09 Tuppence '09	} Ch. Riddle '06	Sabine des Ajoncs de l'Aulne '07+
7	Uwchlan '10	Ch. Gebeba Larry '06	Quarry '06
5	Yarrow '13 Yvette '13	} Ch. Gallion des Rocs du Plessis '12	Souza '08
4	Ch. Gebeba's Crown Victoria '14	Ch. Gebeba-Clancy Quality Is Job One	Ch. Clementine Cotton Eye Josie of Gebeba
	Irmine des Terres du Templier '14	Buzet	Easy des Echos des Abers
	Iroise Bro Ar Gwesklen '14	Guildo Bro Ar Gwesklen	Alpine Bro Ar Gwesklen
3	Zelda '15 Ziva '15	} Ch. Gallion des Rocs du Plessis '12	Tuppence '09
	Ch. Gebeba's Hootenanny '16	Ch. Gebeba's Inimitable Emmet	Ch. Gebeba's Crown Victoria '14
1	Artful des Ronciers de la Brenne '17	Joupeau des Ronciers de la Brenne	Hirondelle des Brumes de l'Orzon

Important Date: October 26-29—NATIONAL BASSET PACK TRIALS, Aldie, Virginia

LUDWIG'S CORNER HORSE SHOW-THE CONSERVATION TENT



Test your knowledge of hunting & all things Skycastle with this Word Search. Words can be found horizontally, vertically, diagonally, or a combination there of. The word list follows the puzzle area & the answers can be found in the back of the newsletter. Happy Hunting!



Find the following terms & names:

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------|--------------|--|
| Aldie VA | Dog Hound | Hunt | Pack | Stock Tie | <u>BONUS</u>
<u>SEARCH:</u> |
| All On | Draw | Hunt Ball | Pack In | Tailgate Tea | |
| Away | Dues | Hunt Cap | Party Wagon | Tally Ho | Name of one of our younger members |
| Basseting | Earning Colors | Hunt Committee | PBGV | Tea Time | |
| Blessing of Hounds | Elizabeth Streeter | James F Scharnberg | Quarry | Trompette | |
| Blow Horn | Field | Kennels | Cottontail Rabbits | Try Back | |
| Boxing Day | Field Master | Larry | Red Velvet | Uwchlan | |
| Brass Buttons | Fixture Card | Ludwig's Corner (<i>no apostrophe</i>) | Collar | Yvette | |
| Bryn Mawr Hound Show | French | Marsh Creek | Ribbons | Waistcoat | |
| Button | French Gray | Master | Riot | Ware Hole | |
| Bye Day | Gone To Ground | MBH | Salsa | Whip | |
| Capping Fee | Green Hunt Coat | Meet | Scent | Whipper in | |
| Chase | Grooming | Nose | Skycastle | Yarrow | |
| Couple | Horn | Opening Meet | French Hounds | Yuengling | |
| Covert | Huic | | Stern | Zelda | |
| Deer | | | Stock Pin | Ziva | |



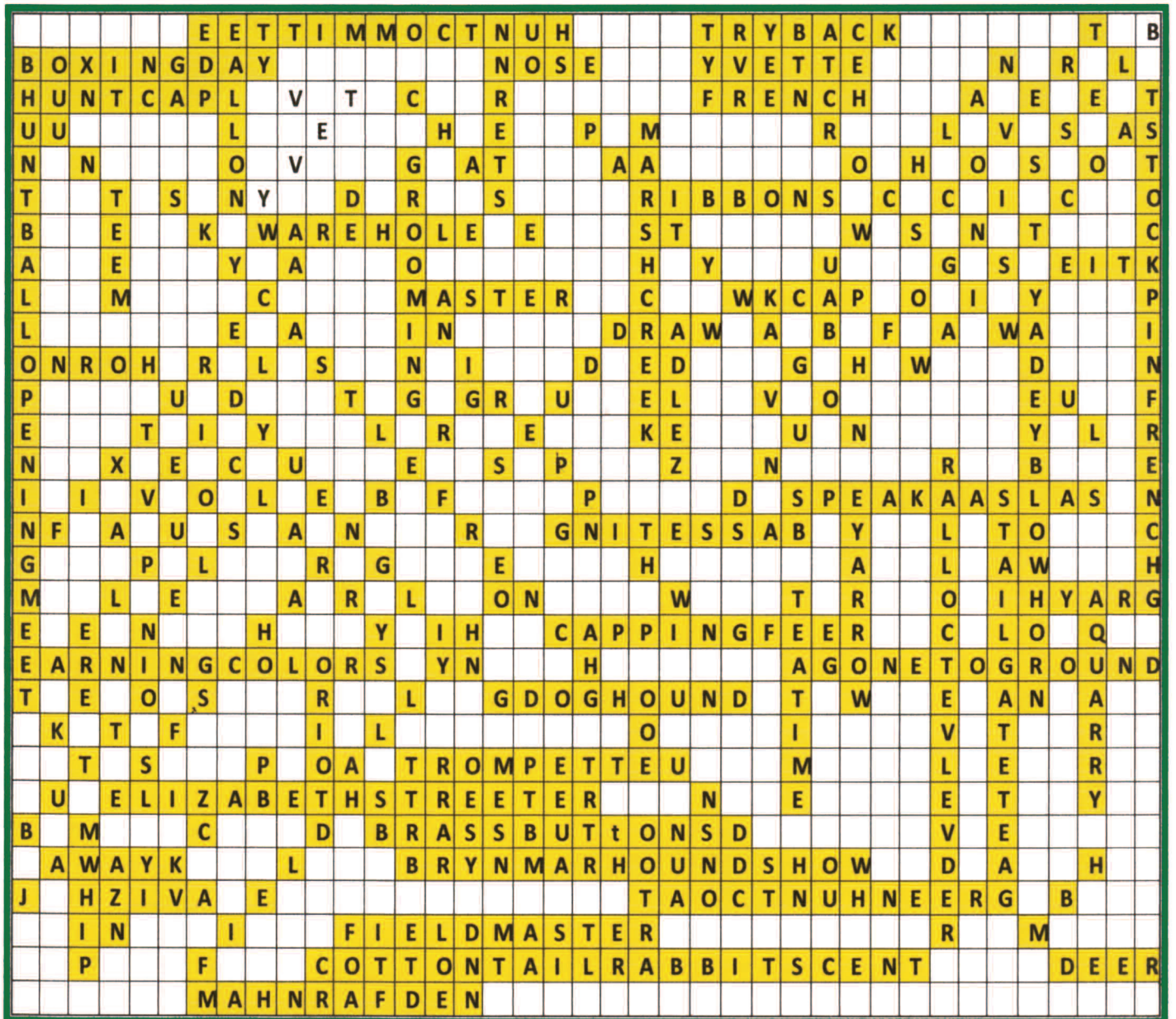
These handsome shirts, with Skycastle logo may be ordered through Phyllis Allen. Call her at 610-486-6203.



- Polo shirt, Dark Green or white \$40.00
- White with long sleeves \$44.00
- Dark Green Sweatshirt \$45.00



Answers to Word Search Puzzle.



BONUS SEARCH – Name of one of our younger members – **Ned Farnham**

WITH THANKS for help with this issue of Skylines to Jim Scharnberg, Chip Farnham, & Phyllis Allen.